CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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'Clouds' in World-Wide Debut

Oshawa Honors "Pop" Osier

Leon Osier, known as "Pop" to friends and colleagues, who on January 31st celebrated his 20th year as manager of Oshawa's Regent Theatre, a Famous Players house, was the object of lavish tribute from Hollywood stars, theatre men and his fellow-citizens of the auto city.

A special color section of the Oshawa Times-Gazette crystalized the sentiments of friends and well-wishers. In it were tributes from

(Continued on Page 2)

Columbia, Premier Renovate

Both Columbia Pictures and Premier Operating intend renovating and extending their offices at 21 Dundas Square, Toronto. Additions to the staff has made more room necessary.

London House to 20th

The Rex, London, has come under 20th Century Theatres supervision. House is owned by Pete Barnes. Fred Thompson remains as manager.

Durbin Returns To Universal

Deanna Durbin, Canadian-born singing star, has made her peace with Universal Studios after a break of four months, during which time neither she nor the studio would yield. Deanna went off the payroll last October, after she rejected a script.

Nate Blumberg, president of Universal, announced the reconciliation and stated that Miss Durbin's salary had been resumed.

Accompanied by her husband, Vaughn Paul, Deanna will give a series of concerts in the east during February, most of these at army camps.

Film Shot in Canada Flown to Situations by RAF Bombers

The Canadian openings of the long-heralded "Captain of the Clouds" will take place on the evening of February 12th in Ottawa and Toronto, key situations in a network of simultaneous around-the-world premieres. The Canadian unreelings will be saluted by a coast-to-coast Dominion-wide broadcast on the night before.

The radio show, produced by the new Victory Loan Campaign, will be heard from 10 to 10.30 p.m., February 11th, over 64 CBC stations. It will feature highlight scenes from the Technicolor movie.

The film, a saga of the Royal Canadian Air Force with James Cagney in the starring role, will have fanfare openings on Febru-

(Continued on Page 2)

No Hays Stopper— Garbo Neat in GB

American trade and other advertising on MGM's Garbo opus, "Two-Faced Woman," made no reference to the fact that the first prints were rolled back for whitewashing because of censor stuff. In England, however, the American thumbing-down yielded a juicy advertising angle.

The Daily Film Renter ran a color page adorned with the outline of a long-nosed, sour-faced, top-hatted gent—and the nose was blue. Copy read: "Outrageous!" say the blue-noses. "Outstanding!" say the critics.

Making hey-hey while the stars shine?

British Houses Close

Four hundred and thirty-seven theatres in Great Britain have closed since the new year began. Of these 185 closed due to enemy action, 35 were taken over by the government and 172 were locked to the public because they were in danger areas.

Amos N' Andy

Amos 'n' Andy, the famous blackface comedians of radio, make one of their infrequent screen appearances in the current issue of "Unusual Occupations," Paramount short filmed in Magnacolor, which reveals the strange hobbies of everyday folk. Other stars to be seen in succeeding releases of the series are Bob Hope and Richard Arlen.

Names Change

Two 20th Century Toronto houses will change names shortly. The Oriole, on north Yonge street, becomes the Cinema and the Aster, Ossington avenue, which just joined the circuit, will be known as the Pix.

Maurice Davis Montreal, Passes

Maurice Davis, well-known in Quebec film circles, died in the Jewish General Hospital, Montreal, on Sunday, February 1st at the age of 47.

Mr. Davis, with the United Amusement Corporation at the time of his death, was born in London, England, and came to this country at the age of 13. He entered the film business with Pathe in Montreal at the opening of that

(Continued on Page 2)

Druxerman Heads Esquire in Montreal

Larry Druxerman has been named Montreal manager for Esquire Films by Archie Laurie, Canadian General Manager. He takes over at the opening of the branch.

Druxerman, with Empire-Universal as a salesman, has been handling Esquire product through the former exchange.

Midnite Shows Get More Whacks — Now It's Hamilton, Ontario

Hamilton is the latest city to hear midnight shows blasted.

The Hamilton Presbytery, in session passed a motion that a letter, followed up by a delegation, be sent to the Attorney-General's Department asking for restrictive action to be taken against midnight shows in Hamilton and the province generally.

"More people die between two and four o'clock in the morning than at any other time," said Rev. Dr. Banks S. Nelson, "and more young people die morally in these hours.

"Will Hays does not object to Sunday movies. In fact, in the United States, the shows open Sunday at one o'clock and continue through till midnight. We don't want this practice started here."

Dr. Nelson commented on the type of picture and said that the Police Commission, though some of its members sided with him, informed him that it had no author-

(Continued on Page 2)

Radio City to B & F

B & F have taken over Radio City theatre, Bathurst street, Toronto, for operation, the deal having begun on February 2nd. It was formerly operated by Associated Theatres. Mr. V. Simone is the owner.

UNIVERSAL LISTS 53 FEATURES

Universal wil make and release 50 features for the new season and will also release three films made by outside producers, according to W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager. Empire-Universal releases them in Canada.

Film Weekly

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28

At Last

Who hasn't watched scenes of Canada in the movies and listened to references to our Dominion from the screen that made him just a little sick by their obvious exaggeration or narrowness? Resentment against this sort of thing has almost become a native peculiarity.

Canadian motion picture critics, such as Roly Young of the Toronto Globe and Mail and Jack Karr of the Toronto Daily Star, have frequently given expression to this feeling of intelligent picture patrons on this side of the border.

Now comes Warner Brothers "Captain of the Clouds" to tell the world that Canada is a leading country, very alive to Civilization and deeply aware of its duty to Democracy. "Captain of the Clouds" is a military picture, it is true, but this is a military country today surrounded by a military world.

Any person of intelligence can realize that a country capable of such quick recognition of its duty and of such vast and untiring effort in behalf of truth and justice is a land made up of more than backwoods. Wartme ideals and action are a reflection of peacetime skill, strength and national character.

That Canada, in ordinary times, is a land that has given many great athletes, scientists and other outstanding persons to the world seems to have escaped movie makers and newspaper writers in the past. Now comes one of the best motion pictures ever made to present an answer to the exasperating misconceptions of the past.

Let us repeat what we wrote when we first saw it:

"Here is, so far, the great picture of Canada. It is a picture to make every Canadian walk out of the theatre with head up and a proud look. It is a technicolor festival for the eye, a powerful stimulant for the spirit, and rare entertainment of every brand rolled into one."

Oshawa Honors "Pop" Osier

(Continued from Page 1)

J. J. Fitzgibbons, Madeleine Carrol, Ed. G. Robinson, W. H. Moore, M.P., Attorney General Gordon D. Conant. Mayor Gifford, many outstanding Ottawa business men and managers in all parts of the province.

Mr. Osier came to Oshawa in 1922 and shortly thereafter bought a home, which he still occupies with his wife and two sons. He has played an active part in many civic organizations, having been past president of such organizations as of the Kinsmen Club and the Oshawa City Hockey League. He is a director of the South Ontario Agricultural Society and the local branch of the Canadian Institute for the Blind.

His activities do not end there. Currently Mr. Osier is active in the Victory Loan Campaign and in other war efforts.

"Pop" Osier was born in Hamilton, Ontario and was once Secretary-Treasurer of the Theatre Managers' Association of that city. For a while he managed dramatic stock in the Orpheum, Newark. His only departure from show business was when he joined the International Harvester Company as a draftsman and later as part of the purchasing department of the National Steel Car Co. But he couldn't hold out and returned to his first love.

Some famous stars first appeared under his management, such as Bobby Breen, Douglas Dumbrille and Betty Compton, who later married Jimmy Walker, ex-mayor of New York. His friendships reach to many places and among those who have a personal affection for him are Polly Moran, Jack Dempsey, Buster Keaton and Joe Yule, father of Mickey Rooney.

The Oshawa Times-Gazette tendered Mr. Osier a tribute on its editorial page. Congratulations, "Pop!" May you run forever.

Hamilton Whacks Midnite Shows

(Continued from Page 1)

ity in the matter.

The protests against midnight shows are apparently a followup on the objections of religious groups to a stage revue held on a Sunday evening by the Kinsmen. The proceeds went to get milk for the children of Britain. Some aldermen saw no reason to interfere. Many members of the City Council were present at the theatre, which was donated gratis.

Mayor William Morrison, K.C., pointed out that the Board of Control had no jurisdiction over such performances and said that protests had even been received against military parades on Sunday.

"Hitler," he said, "doesn't care on what day he parades his soldiers, or sends his airplanes over Britain."

New Benny Job

Jack Benny will make "The Meanest Man in the World" for 20th Century-Fox. In 1920 George M. Cohan starred in the play.

Morrie Ryskind is writing the screen version for Producer William Perlberg.

Maurice Davis Montreal, Passes

(Continued from Page 1)

exchange. In 1928 he joined Regal and rose to the chief post in the Canadian metropolis.

Later he became manager of the Canadian Theatre in Quebec City and after two years returned to the distribution field as branch manager of Universal.

He became identified with George Ganetakos and the United Amusement Corporation as supervisor of the Belmont and Amherst theatres until the former house was acquired by Jules Lane.

He is survived by his wife Hannah and two sons, Howard, aged 12, and Richard, aged 15.

Mr. Davis was laid to rest in Mount Royal Cemetery on Wednesday, February 4th.

Huston Deferred

John Huston won't have to join the U.S. Signal Corps, in which he is a volunteer, until he has finished directing the sequel to "Maltese Falcon" for Warners. Shooting begins on February 15th.

The same cast will work in the picture that took part in the first hit.

"Clouds" in World-Wide Bow

(Continued from Page 1)

ary 12th in New York City, London, Cairo and Melbourne.

Warner Brothers head office in Canada announces that RCAF headquarters and the National Film Board are jointly inviting His Excellency, the Earl of Athlone and Prime Minister Mackenzie King and his cabinet to the Ottawa affair. RCAF bands and student flyers will participate in both the Ottawa and Toronto premieres. The film opens in Vancouver on February 13th and shortly after that in other key cities.

Air Marshall William A. Bishop, famed Canadian ace of the first World War, who appears in one scene of the movie, will lead a delegation of 200 members of the RCAF to New York for the opening there, together with Air Marshall L. S. Breadner, chief of staff of the RCAF. The delegation will include most of the leading figures, military and political, connected with the RCAF.

Part of the body of airmen will be the famed Precision Drill Squadron and the RCAF Central Band of Ottawa. These include 33 Americans, six from the New York area and the others from 17 states and the District of Columbia. The Precision Squadron and the band will participate in a demonstration of Canada's war effort and join in the celebration of Lincoln's birthday.

While they are in the city they will present Mayor LaGuardia with an official RCAF ensign for his untiring efforts to strengthen Canadian-American ties and to bolster Canadian-American war effort. The flag will be presented to the mayor after the airmen have marched from the Waldorf-Astoria to the Eternal Light in Madison Square, where they will place a wreath to the flyers who lost their lives in the last war.

Absent from the various openings will be most of the flyers who took part in the picture, which was filmed in Canada last summer. Some are overseas and in action while others have reached a point of training which makes absence from their training impossible right now.

Prints were delivered by RCAF and RAF bombers to the various cities, some of these having flown through combat zones.

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Palace, Windsor, Again Helps Drive

Seventeen hundred people paid $1,400 and jammed the Palace Theatre, Windsor, to see an all-star show in aid of the Queen's Canadian Fund for Air Raid Victims held last Saturday evening. Only recently a similar type of show was staged in the same house for the Overseas Smokes Fund.

Both shows were the result of the aggressive sponsorship of the B'Nai Brith, Windsor Lodge, of which Milton Meretsky, outstanding film man of the area, heads its War Services Committee.

Most of the talent came from Detroit, across the river, and appeared because of the good offices of J. Earl Hudson of the Detroit United Theatres. Mr. Hudson overcame many difficulties. One of these was the requirement of the actors' union that a percentage of the gate of benefit shows be paid in advance. Not knowing what the gross might be, Mr. Hudson advanced the money in American funds and payment was prepared for him. He took it, signed a slip and turned it back.

Others who assisted in the splendid effort were W. Harold Vaughan, executive editor of the Windsor Star, Bob Corbin, manager of the Michigan Theatre; Thomas V. Bodkin, manager of the Broadway hit, "Louisiana Purchase," Hill F. Best of Windsor and Detroit, J. E. Campeau and Larry Gentile of CKLW, Windsor.

'Clouds' on Records

RCA Victor is preparing a color streamer featuring the song "Bless 'Em All" from Warners' "Captain of the Clouds." The song was recorded by Barry Wood for Victor and by Art Kassel for Bluebird. Material on the picture will be included in "Victor Record News" and will be mailed to 14,000 dealers.

Heroes Meet

Two heroes of the first World War faced each other in Toronto recently—Captain Walter Rayfield, V.C., governor of Don Jail, Toronto, and Sergeant York, famed American.

Rayfield was there in person but he watched a representation of his American counterpart by Gary Cooper. In point of numbers York was the most outstanding. He had killed 30 Germans and captured 130 while Rayfield did for some but snared a mere 30. He was a private then.

A few more Yorks and Rayfields and that war would have ended much sooner.

Nice Fellow

We hooked up for a short spell with a gentleman of the craft who has been in our midst for some time now and whose name we hear frequently in the haunts of the trade. He is Bernard Langdon who, as manager of London's famed Trocadero, was one of the world's top-flight theatre managers. The Trocadero, still in action despite being blitzed, seats 5,000 and is Europe's largest movie palace.

It was Arthur Brenard, now of the RAF, who gave us the pleasure of meeting Langdon. Brenard used to cover the West End, which is London's Broadway, for the Daily Mail and was a pal of Langdon's. On leave, he came to Toronto and enjoyed his first reunion with the well-known English box-officer.

Langdon, who has the manner of a man who has met the public in large numbers all his life and enjoys it, is in Canada because of one of those numerous quirks that follow in the wake of war. He had a two-month vacation coming and heeded the request of his cousin, Quentin Maclean, famed organist, that he manage the latter's Canadian tour. The war broke out and Langdon was marooned over here.

The various services thumbed him down. Now he's marking time, sort of, in the service of a great Canadian business concern. But his heart is in the theatre.

He ought to be induced to take a Canadian situation while here. Ordinary contact with him is a pleasure—and that's the sort of thing the public loves.

The Colored Brethern

Bernard Langdon was reminiscing about things around "The Troc," as it is known.

"I suppose," he smiled, "that I'm the only theatre manager in the world who was tipped by an actor."

Paul Robeson, he explained, was at the Trocadero for a singing engagement. Robeson, whom Langdon admires, left tips for each member of the staff, from doorman to call boy. With the exception of the manager, of course.

However, one of the tips was for the man who handled the microphones. What Robeson didn't know was that it was a rule of the house that this task, highly-important to a singer, must be attended to by the manager in person.

So the fellow charged with the distribution of the boons scratched his head, but with a feeling of lese majeste, bestowed it on Langdon.

You can be assured that the money didn't end up there.

The Affable Henry

Langdon remembered the night a colored emissary approached him and said, "Could you find room in here for Henry Armstrong?"

It was obvious that he expected Langdon to be impressed. Langdon wasn't—mainly because, not being up on his pugs, he didn't know that Henry Armstrong was a double-champion and the toast of the sporting world. So with managerial shrewdness Arthur excused himself and got a 30 second rundown on Hammering Hank. Then he invited Hank and his entourage into the office.

The boys took to each other and when Langdon hinted that the audience, a Sunday night one, would like a look at the black storm, Henry was only too pleased to please.

Thus, through average friendliness, "The Troc" won the greatest of good-will from its patrons. They almost tore the roof off and talked about it for weeks.

Since here Langdon has made many friendships with people in every branch of the movie business who recognize in him the finest type of theatre executive.

Who's Hooey

Hilly Yuden, formerly a Pennsylvania Yankee, became a Canadian citizen last week. Congratulations. Ain'tcha gonna make a party or something? . . . Pilot Officer Moore, the droll Scot who was such a hit in "Target for Tonight" is over here now and drops into Toronto on leave . . . Overheard: "Go away. You're as ugly as sin—and not as much fun."

Mickey and Judy Host War Guests

War guests in Canada for the duration will be the guests of Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland wherever their new picture, MGM's "Babes on Broadway" will play.

Editors, mayors and other prominent citizens of all places playing the picture have, or will get, a telegram like this one, which was sent to W. McCurdy, Managing Director of the Winnipeg Tribune:

"Kindly extend an invitation to all children from the British Isles residing in Winnipeg for the duration to be our guests on opening day of 'Babes on Broadway' at the Capitol Theatre. We have been thrilled and inspired by the sacrifices of the people of Britain and hope the message of the song, 'Chin Up! Cheerio! Carry On!' as presented in our picture will convey our appreciation of their indomitable spirit. Sincerely."

The wire was signed by Mickey and Judy.

The original idea came from Harold Bishop, manager of the Winnipeg theatre mentioned and was taken up by Regal and Dewey Bloom as a very good one. Then Hollywood and the stars fell right in with it.

Service organizations have offered to organize transportation and refreshments as well as supervising the care of the kids during the visit.

Para-English Film

"Channel Port," Leonard Lee's story of Commando exploits which Paramount owns, will be filmed by the company in England, it was announced following conferences between David Rose, managing director, for Paramount in Great Britain, and Hollywood studio executives. Rose hopes to obtain either Laurence Olivier or David Niven for the male lead.

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Digest of Reviews

Warners

ALWAYS IN MY HEART

Here's a sur-prize package.

Here's one of those singing juvenile films with plenty of sentiment and no syrup, yet with a good story well worked out and ably played.

The picture presents a new singing star, 15-year-old Gloria Warren, who can look Miss Deanna Durbin right in the eye and take over the field left by the Winnipeg-'O-My-Heart when she grew up and got married.

There are several fine musical scenes, presented in a casual and convincing way, and much lovely music of piano, voice and mass harmonica. Borah Minnevitch and his harmonica group return to pictures in this and fit in perfectly.

Story deals with a jailbird father, played by Walter Huston, who wants his wife, Kay Francis, to marry millionaire Sydney Blackmer for the sake of the children. She doesn't, of course. There's an eventual reunion.

There are a number of fine performances, an appealing one being that of a three-year-old whose name escapes us and who speaks more clearly and plays more capably than any child we've seen in some time.

Because it's so different from the roaring things of today, it's solid war fare.

Columbia

A CLOSE CALL

A not too mystifying mystery about blackmail and the pseudo-daughter of millionaire planning to inherit his money.

William Gargan, replacing Ralph Bellamy as Ellery Queen, plays capably and Margaret Lindsey provides her usual good support. Charles Grapewin, as the Queen pater, is here again. Ralph Morgan is the millionaire.

Columbia

CADETS ON PARADE

An interesting picture for the teen-aged. Freddy Bartholomew has gone a long way back in name draw since he grew up and this picture won't boom him any.

Story is about a kid that quails at everything and his disappointed father, a rough-and-ready guy from 'way back. The kid finally skips his school and tangles with Jimmy Lydon, a newsboy whose father is a wrongo. The idea gets around that Freddy has been snatched for a payoff and the newsboy's father tries to cash in on it by demanding money.

It all ends right and with Freddy resolved to get his back up hereafter.

Joseph Crehan and Raymond Hatton work well as the fathers.

United Artists

HAYFOOT

Sequel to "Tanks a Million," the Hal Roach military streamliner, it ends as though there will be more.

William Tracy is again the doughboy with the steel-trap mind who can remember everything. Joe Sawyer and Noah Beery, Jr., are his rivals as of yore. Their belligerency yields a series of embarrassing situations for Tracy but he always comes out on top.

Jimmy Gleason is the soft but hard camp commandant and Elyse Knox the daughter who favors Tracy.

What there is by way of story deals with the battalion shooting match—which the hero doesn't win.

It's a worthy followup for "Tanks," which was well received.

MOVIE-GO-ROUND

(Jack Karr in the Toornto Daily Star—before "49th Parallel" and "Captain of the Clouds")

A funny think . . . You pick up any film trade paper these days and you see headlines such as . . . "Colossal Studios will have South American locale for three pictures this year" . . . "Magnifico Productions plan to woo Argentine with filmusicals" . . . and so on.

Peculiar, but Canada, which is Hollywood's best "foreign" customer, has been taken for granted so completely that it is almost ignored . . . and when it does come up for mention, it is very often treated in an uncomplimentary way. And you need go no further than one of the downtown theatres this week to see what we mean. In a certain picture around town, one of the characters "goes to Canada for a holiday" . . . which, of course, means he goes to a trading post, a week's journey away from the nearest telephone where the natives are a crude set of characters who have never heard of civilization. To top it all, the sequence is used for comedy.

No one will deny that there is this side of Canadian life, but to make all Canadian scenes backwoods in the movies is about as sensible as to film all United States sequences in the hills of Kentucky. At the moment we can't recall any picture which has shown this country with any semblance of modernity whatever.

So, while Hollywood is busily engaged in showering gifts on a South American sweetheart, it seems to have forgotten that there is still a much-neglected friend in the north who likes a bouquet tossed in its direction once in a while, too.

Echoes and Reflections

THE CHICAGO SUN

(Part of a column on inept endings by Wolfe Kaufman.)

Remember this. Whether the acting is good or not, is important. Ditto all down the line. But the writing is still the most important base.

It always astonishes me when so-called movie critics rave and rant about everything in the film and don't mention the writer, or mention him casually at the tag end. These are the same critics who say "Maxwell Anderson's new play opened at the such and such theater last night." Or who say "Elliott Paul's new novel was published yesterday." But they forget that the movie, too, had to be written.

MISSION TO MOSCOW

(A footnote in the book by Joseph E. Davies, former Ambassador from the United States to the Soviet Union. Simon and Schuster, NY)

When Ambassador Bullitt established the Embassy in Spazzo House, he arranged one of the large rooms for the showing of moving pictures. It was most helpful in affording contacts with both the diplomatic corps and with government officials. Will Hays continued to be most co-operative and provided news reels regularly. They would be brought in by courier. Whenever movies are shown it is always "open house" for the whole American colony as well as for the diplomatic corps. The colony certainly apreciated these showings. In fact everyone did. They are quite an institution. It would not have been possible but for the co-operation and fine helpfulness of the moving-picture industry and the co-operation of Will Hays. It gave many Americans a great deal of pleasure in Soviet Russia, and it aided the mission substantially in its contacts.

THE LION'S ROAR

(In an article about Judy Garland called "Judy's Life of Song.")

But her greatest thrill was to come during the making of "Babes on Broadway." Lord Halifax, Ambassador from Great Britain, visited the studio. Judy was asked to sing for him.

She remembered a cold, bleak morning when she was on a program broadcast to England. It was six a.m. and only the pianist and technicians were in the studio. She thought of the bombs and terror and devastation headlined in the morning papers. Her lips trembled as she sang a new song into the microphone that would carry it far across the seas to the war-torn land.

And so when she stood up before Lord Halifax, the song again sprang from her lips:

"Don't give up, Tommy Atkins
Be a stout fella'—
Chin up, cheerio, carry on.
Keep a stiff upper lip
When you're in doubt, fella!
Chin up, cheerio, carry on.
For the sun's sure to smile
On your bright little isle—
So hang on to your wits
And you'll turn the blitz on
Fritz.
There's a whole world behind you
Shoutin'—stout fella!
Chin up, cheerio, carry on!

Lord Halifax rushed to embrace her when the song was ended.

the Buildup

General

Every month in the United States and Canada millions of people spend a great sum of money collectively to read about their favorite stars in fan magazines. This American phenomenon has developed into several forms, chief of which is the fan magazine distributed in both English-speaking countries of the continent. This one is devoted impartially to the players and uses the most appealing angle in journalism, human interest. Fan magazines may now be found in every country.

There are also fan magazines with regional circulation only and a number of semi-private ones, each devoted to a particular player.

Added together, the fan magazine is the greatest single source of support of a publicity nature for the movies. The top dozen in the field have a general circulation of over 4,000,000 each month.

The exhibitor and distributor can learn much from them. The frequency with which material on this or that star appears in them is a pretty good indication of the star's drawing power. Minor players who are growing in appeal have their progress recorded by their popularity in print, since many readers buy them for the story on their current favorite.

This breakdown indicates which way the winds of popularity are blowing.

In the magazines studied two were devoted to fiction written from the movie version. Twenty stories, the majority taken from pictures not yet released, were printed and prodded the curiosity of the reader to see the film.

Publicity for the stars seemed to be evenly divided. In only a single case, that of **Alexis Smith,** did two stories appear about the same player. There seems to be a working arrangement between the studios and the magazines to guarantee against duplication of subjects.

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Covers

Betty Grable, the girl with the gorgeous gams, seems to be considered the finest come-on by the fan magazines. She had two covers all to herself and one with **George Raft.** Three out of ten is a mighty strong share. She deserves them and it is proof that she is today's darling, though her biggest years as a star are still to come.

Maureen O'Hara and **John Payne** snaffled one cover together for their "To the Shores of Tripoli" for Fox. **Katherine Hepburn** and **Spencer Tracy** also shared one for MGM's "The Woman of the Year."

Others who got the front-page coveted color prints are **Ann Sheridan, Lana Turner, Sonja Henie, Hedy Lamarr** and **Linda Darnell.**

Juvenile Stars

In ten fan magazines checked **Mickey Rooney** got just one story. His fame is, of course, secure and his pictures appear with such regularity the MGM's Mickey needs little more than theatrical page advertising in the dailies to stay in the public mind.

However, a surprising angle brought out by the fan mags is the slow but sure comeback of **Jackie Cooper,** who was a great child star in his day and has languished somewhat between short and long pants. Paramount's recent "Glamour Boy," an appealing picture that might have been Cooper's own biography, helped somewhat. The fan mags on the stands currently carry two stories of Jackie Cooper and a fictionized yarn of his newest picture, made for RKO with Bonita Granville, and called "Syncopation." It's possible that he will get back into his old stride shortly. Right now there are a number of recent Cooper pictures that can be played to meet the growing demand.

Young **Virginia Weidler,** who proved herself such a capable child star, is also growing in popularity scoring once for an article this time. Though she will probably become a character actress and a supporting player rather than a glamor girl, she will always be a welcome addition to any marquee.

The boy of the year, of course, is the small star of "How Green Was My Valley," **Roddy McDowell.** He drew two articles this time. However, public interest will not be fully focused on him until "Valley" has had general runs. After that he'll drag them in in anything. His new picture for Fox is "On the Sunny Side," not yet released, and his presence will pep up its pull powerfully.

Supporting Players

The player in this category who got the most space is an actress whose name right now is not easily identified without further information. She is **Rosemary De Camp,** an American who is an expert at dialect character roles. Miss De Camp was the Danish immigrant in "Cheers for Miss Bishop" and she'll be seen next as Sabu's mother in "The Jungle Book." The attention she is drawing is a tribute to Miss De Camp, since the studio publicity departments waste little time on supporting players of a non-romantic character. After "Jungle Book" her appearance will draw warm recognition from the patrons.

The ever-popular **Chris-pin Martin,** the Mexican fat man, is noted in the current crop, as is **Akim Tamiroff,** now probably the outstanding supporting player in character roles.

Joseph Schildkraut drew a nod and a few more may help this fine actor get on the right track. He started out as a matinee idol but drifted into roles that bulwark stories—roles of varied nature. He should have been a name draw long ago and may find his way back to the marquees yet.

Now in supporting roles but moving toward stardom is **John Sutton,** who backed up Tyrone Power in "A Yank in the RAF." He drew the attention of one magazine.

Foreign Stars

A number of foreign stars are knocking on the door of public fancy or waiting to make their bows. The North American public has welcomed almost every outstanding European player, showing no dislike for an accent.

Newest masculine interest of the public seems to be **Paul Henried,** who gave such a splendid performance in "Joan of Paris." He won two articles, a good score for a newcomer. Handsome and a fine actor, he should provide another money name for the exhibitor.

Michele Morgan, who played opposite him in "Joan of Paris," also drew the attention of one magazine and seems headed for a solid place in the public's affection.

Then there's **Kaaren Verne,** who will be remembered for her expert playing in "Underground." She'll be out in a new picture shortly and her one citation this time is only the beginning. She is already a draw, though her name is still unfamiliar. It will pay the exhibitor and studio to identify her in the advertising with "Underground."

Coming Stars

Starlets rise, shine and die out with regularity. Many of them don't even outlive the studio buildup. Some persist and these become stars.

Two who, it seems from here, will find a fixed place in the cinema heavens soon are **K. T. Stevens** and **Patricia Dane.** The Stevens girl, who has had much national publicity, got one article on the eve of her debut in an important role. She gets a break in Paramount's "The Great Man's Lady" and may be a money-getter after that.

Patricia Dane may also have her own pictures shortly. She's in MGM's "Johnny Eager," along with Lana Turner and Robert Taylor. After its release some of the pictures in which she merely showed up will have some extra attractions in their late bookings.

Al Rogell Gets Around

Director Al Rogell, who began directing "Butch Minds the Baby" at Universal, is rolling up what may be some kind of a speed record.

Since April 1941, when he finished "Tight Shoes," also a Damon Runyan original, he has completed five pictures and during that time has been idle only five days, including Sundays and holidays.

Following "Tight Shoes" (Universal), he immediately went into production at the same studio on "Jail House Blues," then shfited to Republic for "Sailors on Leave" and "Newspapermen Are Human," followed by "True to the Army" at Paramount, then "Sleepy Time Gal" at Republic and now "Butch," a Mayfair Production for Jules Levey.

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Associated Screen News Bits

Studio and laboratory technicians at Associated Screen News recently enjoyed eating bits of window pane. A special trailer was in production for the forthcoming Victory Loan campaign. One scene called for an actor to stand before a darkened window looking out on an air raid; then a bomb bursts and the window is shattered. Glass would have been too dangerous, so the chef of the Ritz-Carlton hotel in Montreal was asked to make two window panes of clear toffee. It was quite delicious, in addition to being an effective substitute for glass.

* * *

The Canadian Red Cross Society is continuing to seek further blood donors, and plans to take its appeal to theatre screens. A special trailer was made for the purpose by Associated Screen studios.

* * *

The first of a series of trailers planned for the coming Victory Loan campaign was completed for the National Film Board at Associated Screen Studios. "Somewhere the Guns" is the title of the first one to go theatres throughout Canada shortly. "Come on Canada" is a special film produced at the same studios, which will be used by district committees for instruction and inspiration of Victory Loan canvassers who will soon be active throughout all Canada.

* * *

Jack Chisholm of the Toronto office of Associated Screen News has been in Montreal on production work. W. J. Singleton, sales manager was in Ottawa. Frank O'Byrne, Ontario manager, was a visitor to Windsor.

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VISITING in Belleville the other day I noticed two very good gags pulled by handsome Vince Freeman of the Odeon-McCarthy theatre.

On the picture, "Hellzapoppin'," Vince gave out small bags with a few peanuts inside which carried copy on the outside reading: "If you think we're nutty wait until you've seen 'Hellzapoppin' at the McCarthy."

On the same bill he had a horror feature and plugged it by issuing a "Faint Cheque" reading: "If you faint at the horror show this taxi company will give you a free ride home and bring you back later to laugh your head off at 'Hellzapoppin'." The taxi company paid for the printing.

Vince had many more stunts but these were the two I noticed. Use them yourself. They're good.

* * *

CARNET HEATHERLY, Centre, London, besides other stunts, arranged for a small herald on "Trail of the Lonesome Pine." It was folded over and sealed with a piece of tape. Outside copy carried this: "We dare you to give this to your wife unopened!" On the inside it read: "Dearest, I have been neglectful of late. So I am making a date with you right now to see 'Trail of the Lonesome Pine'."

It proved very amusing and helped business.

* * *

TOMMY MASCARO of the Capitol, Belleville, turned out a good campaign on "Jungle Man." He had a special wild life front and a swell tie-in with Adam's Hats in their downtown shop. He also used several thousand sensational heralds plugging the show.

* * *

FRANK REID, Park, Chatham, made a lot of noise for "The Great Dictator." He had 12 — count 'em—window displays, 50 window cards and bannered the front of the theatre. To say nothing of heralds, etc.

He sure let the public know about it—and it paid.

* * *

FOR "Hold That Ghost" Dick Freeman, Kenwood, Toronto, rigged up a ghost cutout with a white sheet and moved it out front. Attracted plenty of attention, too.

* * *

BILL PAYNE, Granada, St. Thomas, helped dispel the love angle from "This Woman Is Mine" with lively and actionful newspaper ads, good lobby cutouts and special action stills and sheets.

In this manner he got over a bad title to win a good gross.

STEWART GILLESPIE, Marks, Oshawa, has started the telephone gag that I listed several times in this column. He claims interest is terrific.

On "Smiling Ghost" Stewart had a special eerie cutout in advance, with window displays. He came up with a good one on "Unfinished Business." He had a cartoon of Hitler in front of the theatre, showing Der Fuehrer getting a crack on the head with a hammer —with the line: "Unfinished Business." He tied the display up with the sale of Victory Bonds.

He also distributed 100 sensational window cards showing a girl reclining. "Unfinished Business," read the copy. A little hot but it clicked.

* * *

MAX PHILLIPS, Grand, Sudbury, did some swell work on "Affectionately Yours." Max went romantic, hooking up with the local florists, bookstores, candy shops and had also a window in a beauty shop.

He had a cooperative newspaper ad, the florist donated a heart of roses display and a batch of valentines helped.

Added to his other stunts, the whole brought good results.

* * *

RALPH TIEDE, Geneva, Orillia, printed copy pertaining to "A Woman's Face" on a large number of shopping bags. These were distributed in downtown stores to women making purchases and were thus carried through the streets.

He also tied up the cosmetic stores for displays, etc.

* * *

MEL JOLLEY, Columbia, St. Thomas, stressed the sabotage angle in plugging Charlie Chan in "Murder over New York." He had lobby advance displays, window displays and sensational ad copy for other matter. The results were very pleasing.

* * *

BOB BEREZIN of the Elgin, Ottawa, comes in for praise on "49th Parallel," the Columbia special.

He had a very picturesque front on the theatre, CPR rigged up a downtown window for him with maps and scenic stuff and TCA provided a display in the Chateau Laurier.

A large photographic slide machine in the window of a downtown store projected scenes from the picture and copy.

The picture opened with a very fine reception and was attended by people of the highest standing.

PAT DUNNE, the fighting Irishman of the North, who manages the Royal, North Bay, came up with some good stunts on the repeat of "Stella Dallas." He covered the book shops and the public library, turned out 50 window cards and got some good gener[illegible] advertising.

Get well, Pat. This column needs contributors like you.

That goes for all showmen. Why not start now and become a regular contributor? Anyone in the world is welcome as long as they promote interest in the world's finest form of education and entertainment. You owe it to your station in life to help create new and more steady theatre patrons. Help them to a more enjoyable way of life, which the motion picture brings.

Del Rio With Welles

Dolores Del Rio, making her bow as a leading member of the Orson Welles Mercury Players, plays one of the most distinctive roles of her career in the latest Orson Welles Mercury production for RKO Radio, "Journey Into Fear."

She is seen as an adagio dancer playing in second-rate cafes. Opposite Miss Del Rio is Joseph Cotton as an American naval ordnance expert who finds himself being tracked by agents determined to kill him.

Welles himself plays a strong supporting role in the film, but delegated the direction to Norman Foster. The screen play is by Welles and Cotten.

Snips and Snaps . . .

Slappy

Joel McRae, co-starring with Veronica Lake, turns to slapstick in "Sullivan's Travels."

High Flyer

Jimmy Cagney becomes a Canadian—and welcome—in Warners "Captains of the Clouds"—a story about Canada filmed in Canada that is one of the finest pictures ever made.

★

Hot Stuff!

Lana Turner and Robert Tay lor together for the first time in MGM's "Johnny Eager" — two hot stars at their hottest. Whoaw . . . slow down . . .

At the Elgin, Ottawa

The Canadian army's snappy new dress uniform being previewed in the lobby of the capital's Elgin theatre.

Hey, Rube!

they're doin' the "Hoe Down"! It's Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland in one of the steps from their new "Hoe Down," dance, introduced in MGM's big musical "Babes on Broadway"

Shunned

Imagine any man trying to escape from Madeleine Carroll. Well, that's what happens throughout Paramount's "Bahama Passage."

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